

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The application contains claims 20 and 22 - 29. Claims 5, 8 and 14-19 have been canceled. Reconsideration of the present application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Rejection Of Claims 5, 8 and 14-19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 5, 8, and 14 - 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,846,262 issued December 8, 1998 to Sayama et al. ("Sayama") in view of U.S. Statutory Invention Registration H1674 published August 5, 1997 to Ames et al. ("Ames"). Applicants have canceled claims 5, 8 and 14 - 19 so as not to delay allowance of the present application.

B. Objection To Claim 20

Claim 20 has been objected to by the Examiner. Claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form and includes all of the limitations of the base claim. Separately, in a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney the week of April 7, 2003, the Examiner indicated that the reference to a §112, 2nd paragraph rejection on page 7 of the Final Office Action with respect to claim 20 appeared to be an error, and Applicants' attorney notes that a §112, 2nd paragraph rejection does not appear elsewhere in the Detailed Action. Accordingly, claim 20 as amended is believed to be in condition for allowance.

C. Allowed Claims 22-29

Claims 22 - 29 are allowed.

D. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner's attention is drawn to the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement received by the U.S.P.T.O. on February 18, 2003, as well as the Information Disclosure Statement which accompanies the Request For Continued Examination mailed May 21, 2003. The Examiner is requested to make of record receipt and review of the documents listed therein.

E. Conclusion

The application now contains claims 20 and 22 - 29 which are believed to be in allowable form. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful attention paid to the present application. Early allowance of the claims in view of the above amendments and remarks is earnestly requested.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (920) 721-7844.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Mary L. Roberts, hereby certify that on May 21, 2003 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Mary L. Roberts

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